

What is claimed is:

Sub A1>

1. A gaming apparatus comprising:
 - a portable biometric data storage device storing first biometric data for at least a first user;
 - a gaming terminal, configured for playing at least first game;
 - 5 a reader, coupled to the gaming terminal which receives said first biometric data stored on said biometric data storage device;
 - a biometric measurement device for measuring biometric data of a user to provide measured biometric data; and
 - 10 a comparator for comparing said measured biometric data to said first biometric data and outputting at least a first notification if there is an absence of match.

2. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said biometric data storage device is provided in a card having a thickness less than about 0.05 inches.

3. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein:

said card includes a microprocessor.

4. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein:

said card is a debit card.

5. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein:

said card further stores the current account balance for an account established for said first user.

6. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said biometric measurement device is selected from among:

a thumb print scanner;

a fingerprint scanner;

a retina scanner;

a iris scanner;

an ear scanner;

a voice data sensor;

a facial scanner; or

an infrared scanner.

7. A gaming terminal comprising:

at least a first control device which initiates or controls playing of a game;

at least a first output device which outputs results of game play;

a biometric measurement device which obtains biometric measured information relating to a prospective game player;

a microprocessor which compares said measured biometric information to stored biometric information;

said microprocessor configured to charge wagers, in connection with said game, against a pre-established account only if said measured biometric information sufficiently closely matches said stored biometric information; and

wherein said gaming terminal is provided in the absence of coin handling, token handling or currency handling equipment.

8. A gaming method comprising:

storing first biometric data for at least a first user in a portable biometric data storage device;

a gaming terminal;

coupling a reader to a gaming terminal, configured for playing at least first game, wherein said reader receives said first biometric data stored on said biometric data storage device;

measuring biometric data of a user to provide measured biometric data; and

comparing said measured biometric data to said first biometric data and outputting at least a first notification if there is an absence of match.

9. A method as claimed in Claim 8, wherein:

said step of storing includes storing in a card having a thickness less than about 0.05 inches.

10. A method as claimed in Claim 9, wherein:

said card includes a microprocessor.

11. A method as claimed in Claim 9, wherein:

said card is a debit card.

12. A method as claimed in Claim 8, further comprising

storing, on said biometric data storage device, the current account balance for an account established for said first user.

13. A method as claimed in Claim 8, wherein:

said step of measuring includes a step selected from among:

scanning a thumb print;

scanning a fingerprint;

scanning a retina;

scanning an iris;

scanning an ear;

sensing voice data; or

scanning a face.

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14. A gaming method comprising:

initiating or controlling playing of a game using at least a first control device;

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outputting results of game play using at least a first output device;
obtaining biometric measured information relating to a prospective game player
using a biometric measurement device ;
comparing said measured biometric information to stored biometric information;
charging wagers, in connection with said game, against a pre-established account
only if said measured biometric information sufficiently closely matches said stored biometric
information; and
10 wherein said gaming terminal is provided in the absence of coin handling, token
handling or currency handling equipment.

15. A gaming apparatus comprising:

portable means for storing first biometric data for at least a first user;
gaming terminal means for playing at least first game;
reader means for receiving said first biometric data stored on said portable means for
storing;
means for measuring biometric data of a user to provide measured biometric data; and
means for comparing said measured biometric data to said first biometric data and
outputting at least a first notification if there is an absence of match.

16. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein:

said means for storing is provided in a card having a thickness less than about 1/4 inch.

17. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein:

said means for storing includes a microprocessor.

18. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein:

said means for storing further stores the current account balance for an account
established for said first user.

19. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein:
said means for measuring is selected from among:
a thumb print scanner means;
a fingerprint scanner means;
a retina scanner means;
a iris scanner means;
an ear scanner means;
a voice data sensor means; or
a facial scanner means.

20. A gaming terminal comprising:
means for initiating or controlling playing of a game;
means for outputting results of game play;
means for obtaining biometric measured information relating to a prospective game player;
means for comparing said measured biometric information to stored biometric information;
means for charging wagers, in connection with said game, against a pre-established account only if said measured biometric information sufficiently closely matches said stored biometric information; and
wherein said gaming terminal is provided in the absence of coin handling, token handling or currency handling equipment.

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